

Workforce & Career Development Division

Director's Corner

I would like to begin by thanking all of the staff and partners who are helping to test the new WorkSourceWA.com solution. We are in the phase of development where we actually have the opportunity to work in the application.

During the discovery phase, we helped Monster design the pieces of the application that would support the WorkSource systems. Now we are testing out what has been developed, working with Monster to make changes to the design to better address our needs, and then re-testing with the tweaks in place.

With that in mind, the schedule has had to move and flex a bit, requiring your flexibility and patience. We want to be sure we get the new system just right, so that it's ready to go. Remember that this new system will free up your time in the field, allowing you more opportunities to improve the processes around you and look for creative ways to serve our customers in the future.

As someone said, it is kind of like cooking spaghetti: you throw the cooked noodles at the wall, and if they don't, stick you cook them some more until they're done. Similarly, we are still cooking and continuing to improve the product. Thanks again to everyone for your attention and patience as we go through this exciting process, and hang in there as we approach the go live application date!

~Sandy Miller

New ESD Website for Unemployment Insurance Claimants

Job seekers receiving unemployment benefits in Washington can now access certain information about their claims on their computers or mobile devices. Employment Security (ESD) debuted a new website that it believes will provide answers to many common questions and save claimants the trouble of calling the agency's claims center for that information. The new site provides unemployment insurance claimants with a variety of information including how much they'll be paid, whether ESD has processed their payment, and a history of wages and hours as reported by Washington employers. The website is part of the agency's effort to replace its current unemployment benefits computer system. That project is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. New features will be added next year as ESD works to improve its technology to better serve Washington residents. The site is available at <https://secure.esd.wa.gov>, or from a link on ESD's [main website](#).

WIOA Local Plan Guidance Coming Soon

Section 108 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires local workforce development boards, in partnership with their local chief elected official(s), to develop and submit to the Governor for approval four-year plans that align with the state plan.

To that end, WTECB and ESD as the state workforce development board and state workforce agency, respectively, have been developing local plan guidelines for issuance to local areas no later than the first week of November. In broad strokes, the local plan development period would run from November to April with state review and feedback occurring in April-May and WTECB recommendations and Governor approval taking place in June in order to have the plans in place by July 1, 2016.

Commissioner Pienecke to Lead NASWA

Employment Security Commissioner Dale Peinecke was elected by the members of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) members to serve as president-elect of the organization through September 2016. He will then take the helm as NASWA's president from September 2016 through September 2017. For more details, see the agency's October 8 [news release](#).



WSC Youth Project: Demonstrating Impact

Washington Service Corp's (WSC) 2014-15 program year wrapped up in August, and with it, that year's collaborative project between Employment Security Department (ESD), the state's 12 workforce development councils (WDCs) and Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), in which tutoring, training and mentoring are provided to disadvantaged youth by WSC AmeriCorps members. A review of the data definitively demonstrates the impact that AmeriCorps members had on the youth in this program: of the 11 performance measures established for the project, nine of them far-exceeded the target goals. WSC proudly reports that 4,060 disadvantaged youth received job training and other workplace readiness skills - exceeding the original target by 110%. Of those trained, 2,149 individuals felt they had improved their workplace readiness skills - exceeding the program goal by 55%; and 473 participants found employment as a result of the program - exceeding the original target by 35%.

The 2015-16 program year started on September 1, and WSC is very pleased that this project will continue with WSC AmeriCorps members again helping the state's youth prepare for and/or establish employment or secondary education.

WIT Job Match Training Concludes

The WorkSource Integrated Technology project's Job Match training series concluded on October 14th. I am pleased to report that the trainings were well attended. In fact, we had over 800 attendees. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) from the job match trainings will be posted on the [Go2News website](#) soon. We have quite a list of [FAQs](#) already posted throughout the duration of the project.

For staff who weren't able to attend the job match webinar or would like to view the training again, here is a [link to the recording on YouTube](#). Also, recordings of the Feature Functionality Reviews (demonstrations) are posted in [Video Archive](#) section of Go2News.

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If you haven't already signed up for the updates, you may still do so. To sign up, go to [Go2News](#), locate the "Follow Go2News" section in the right sidebar, enter your e-mail address and click the "Follow Go2News" button, or click the dark blue "Follow" tab at the bottom right hand side of the screen.

WSC Releases RFA for January-July Program

The Washington Service Corps has released a Request for Applications for organizations to apply to host one to four AmeriCorps members in its Individual Placement program, with a January-July 2016 service term. Deadline to apply is November 9; visit the WSC [website](#) for application materials and more information.

New Policy Guidance

[WIOA Policy 5200:](#)
Fiscal Definitions

[WIOA Policy 5220:](#)
Program Income

[WIOA Policy 5230:](#)
Financial Management

[WIOA Policy 5240:](#)
Financial Reporting

[WIOA Policy 5250:](#)
Sub-recipient and Pass-through Entity Determination Requirements

November 2015 Featured Events

WorkSourceWA Staff Role Training

Sessions are scheduled beginning in mid-November in several locations statewide.

[Register through the Staff Development Calendar](#)



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